

ARTICLE APPEARED
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Supreme Court Roundup

Espionage Appeals

The Court refused to hear appeals from the 1978 espionage convictions of a former United States Information Agency official, Ronald L. Humphrey, and a Vietnamese graduate student, David Truong. The two men had acknowledged forwarding Government documents to the Vietnamese in France in 1977 but denied being spies and denied that the material was related to national defense. Their convictions were upheld by the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit.

In their Supreme Court appeals, the two men argued that warrantless electronic surveillance of Mr. Truong's apartment and telephone, which produced incriminating evidence, had violated their constitutional rights against unreasonable search. (Truong v. U.S., No. 81-631, and Humphrey v. U.S., No. 81-5344.).